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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Offices Responsible for Industry Dispersal, 1946-1955:

1. During the years 1946-1949, the Central Planning Office in Warsaw (Centralny Urzad Planowania) was responsible for dispersal planning. It had branch offices located throughout the Voivodship Towns (Miasta Wojewodskie) of Poland. Czeslaw Bobrowski was appointed the head of this office. In about 1949, the Central Planning Office was dissolved and its responsibilities were taken over by the State Economic Planning Commission in Warsaw (Panstwowa Komisja Planowania Gospodarczego - PKPG). The branch offices were renamed Voivodship Planning Commissions. In 1953 the Voivodship Planning Commissions lost their administrative freedom, and were made dually subordinate, to the State Economic Planning Commission in Warsaw and to the Voivodship National Council.

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Dispersal Discussion and Planning:

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2. After World War II, the first time that dispersal of industry was mentioned in Poland was during the Three Year Plan, 1947-1949. The dispersal planning did not begin at the highest level, at that time, the Central Planning Office in Warsaw, but was started through

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the initiative of a group of individual economists with Professor Dr. M. J. Ziomek in the lead. Dr. Ziomek was at that time the director of the Central Planning Office, Stalinogrod Branch. The discussions took place first at office level, then was taken up by the Voivodship National Council, the Advanced School of Economics and the office responsible for workers' settlement planning and construction, all of them in Stalinogrod. These discussions were mainly concerned with a critique of the haphazard construction of industrial installations in Silesia.

3. During the execution of the 1947-1949 Three Year Plan, the three year plan of economic reconstruction (Odbudowy Gospodarskiej), haphazard construction was started in Silesia. Construction and reconstruction of industrial installations in the coal and steel regions that were in no way connected with the coal and steel industry (leather, food, electrical equipment), endangered the economic stability of Silesia. All this was done with the approval of the Central Planning Office in Warsaw.
4. The first aim of the discussion started by Dr. Ziomek was to attract the attention of the Central Planning Office. He published several articles about the necessity of dispersing industry in two professional magazines, Zycie Gospodarcze, (Economic Life), and the Gospodarka Planowa, (Planned Economy). His articles gave the following reasons for the necessity of dispersing industry:
 - a. Theoretical reasons (Economic theory).
 - b. Density of population.
 - (1) Manpower.
 - (2) Transportation.
 - (3) Supply.
 - (4) Logistics.
 - (5) Decrease in village population and agricultural production.
 - c. Equalization of the living standard of the industrial and agricultural regions.
 - d. Cost of material transportation and necessity of building installation as close as possible to natural resources.
5. Political and strategic reasons and certain social aspects were not discussed publicly but were discussed behind closed doors at the meeting in Warsaw at which Dr. Ziomek was present. The construction of the Lenin Iron and Steel Works (formerly Nowa Huta) was a good example of the results of closed discussions. The discussion about its construction lasted for about two years, 1948-1949. In the beginning, it was planned to construct it in Labedy (N50-20, E18-37), but mainly for social, political and strategic reasons it was built near Krakow.
6. First, the city of Krakow with its great number of intelligentsia was considered by the regime to be a very reactionary city. By building the Lenin Iron and Steel Works near Krakow and bringing in a great number of workers, which the regime believed to be Communist, the regime hoped to counteract the reactionary activity of the intelligentsia. Secondly, the regime feared that Silesia,

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which was German up to 1945, would be partly or wholly returned to Germany, for some reason, and therefore all the newly built industry would be lost to Poland. Finally, for strategic reasons, they decided to build the plants in the least vulnerable areas, as far in the interior as possible.

Actual Dispersal of Industry:

7. Toward the end of the Three Year Plan, 1947-1949, and later, during the following Six Year Plan, 1950-1955, the dispersal of industry in Silesia was seriously taken under consideration. Only a few large industrial installations, one of the largest Sulphuric Acid Plants in Poland, in Wizow, Silesia (coordinates unknown) and an artificial fertilizer plant in Kedzierzyn (N50-21, E18-12) were built in this area. Only small installations in some way connected with either the coal or steel industry were constructed there. All other large industrial installations, the Lenin Iron and Steel Works, one of the largest cement plants in Europe, and others were constructed further in the interior of the country. After 1949, there was no mention of industry dispersal in the press. It was only noticeable in the placement of installations.

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